



VALAND ACADEMY

FOA141 Master Thesis in Photography I, 30 hp, 30 credits

Masterexamenskurs i fotografi I, 30 hp, 30 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Valand Academy on 2019-06-04 to be valid from 2019-06-12, autumn semester of 2019.

Field of education: Design 100%

Department: Valand Academy

Position in the educational system

The course is given as compulsory course in the Master's (120 credits) programme in photography and includes the first course of two examination courses on the Master's (120 credits) programme in photography. The course is placed during semester three in the Master's (120 credits) programme in photography.

The course can be part of the following programme: 1) Master of Fine Arts Programme in Photography (K2FOT)

Main field of studies

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Specialization

A2E, Second cycle, contains degree project for Master of Arts/Master of Science (120 credits)

Entry requirements

Degree of Bachelor in photography or the equivalent knowledge. In addition to that, at least 52.5 credits are required at second cycle level of which at least 45 credits at second cycle level in the main field of study or the equivalent knowledge.

Learning outcomes

After completion of the course, students are expected to be able:

*Knowledge and understanding***Photographic Work III**

- identify artistic methodology in research and in other relevant works in photography
- Identify the limitations and possibilities of the photographic medium

Writing on Photography II

- account for the choice of method and perspective in the own text
- identify and discuss methods and issues in investigative and research related texts on photography

Professional Development I

- give examples of special skills related to public presentations of photographic works
- give examples of problems related to public presentations of photographic works

*Competence and skills***Photographic Work III**

- present and critically discuss spatial considerations in the planning of a photographic work intended for exhibition or other adequate presentation
- plan a photographic work where content, references, method, technology and possible forms of presentation are discussed and considered

Writing on Photography II

- complete an investigative and research-related text on photography based on a question and / or problem formulation
- contextualize the own perspective and the issue in relation to other texts and photographic works
- apply adequate formalities within the framework of academic writing
- give oral constructive criticism on other students' text work

Professional Development I

- planning presentations of photographic works with regard to time frames, resources and presentation forms, based on their own practice
- planning communication on photographic work with regard to communication methods, information channels and audience based on defined skills

*Judgement and approach***Photographic Work III**

- describe and critically discuss considerations regarding method, form and content as well as references and technology based on planned independent photographic works

- orally problematize and evaluate the artistic process related to one's own and others' artistic practice

Writing on Photography II

- critically reflect on and motivate the choice of problem, method and source material, as well as what the text comes up with (the research result)
- verbally describe what knowledge and areas need to be deepened and strengthened for the continued text work
- critically reflect on and assess the strengths and weaknesses of other students' texts, as well as in other research-related texts

Professional Development I

- critically reflect on how photographic works are communicated considering location and audience as well as describe one's choice and position

Course content

The course aims to develop the different aspects of independent work within three subcourses ; Photographic Work III, Writing on Photography II and Professional Development I.

Sub-courses

1. Photographic Work III (*Fotografiskt arbete III*), 15 credits

Grading scale: Pass (G) and Fail (U)

The subcourse aims to develop and deepen the student's composing ability, methodology in the artistic process, and the critical thinking about one's own work and the subject of photography in general. In individual tutorials and group seminars, the student is given the opportunity to verbally formulate criticisms about their own and other students' photographic work, contextualise these works and, through references from the photographic and artistic field, try to connect links about actuality, relevance and historical points of contact in the works being discussed. The subcourse includes activities for testing and developing forms for visual presentation. The goal is for the student to deepen the relationship between idea, expression and content in a spatial or other adequate design of his / her own artistic work. In conversations, discussions and visual analyses, the knowledge that is not yet written down or is otherwise documented is also created. The vision is that this knowledge should manifest itself in the student's work during the study period and in the future.

2. Writing on Photography II (*Att skriva om fotografi II*), 7.5 credits

Grading scale: Pass (G) and Fail (U)

The subcourse aims to end the master-text, which may take the form of an essay or literary composition, and to further develop the text writing. This means deepening and clarifying the issue and the topic that the student chooses to examine in his /

her text, integrating relevant sources into the work, developing methods and theoretical perspectives that correspond to the nature of the study. It also means giving the text an adequate outline that includes the necessary note device and references. The subcourse also includes the ability to oppose another student's text work. The aim of the opposition is to develop the critical ability by constructively examining another text work, as well as giving suggestions and views on improvements.

3. Professional Development I (*Professionell Utveckling I*), 7.5 credits

Grading scale: Pass (G) and Fail (U)

The subcourse aims to give the student knowledge to present his / her own photographic work in public contexts. The student exercises in groups on shorter and longer verbal presentations and in later delivers these, before professionals in the field. It is also included in the sub-course to identify competencies outside of the artistic and subject-specific ones, which are relevant for being able to act as a professional practitioner. The subcourse comprises practical work on planning and marketing, publishing, program activities, pedagogy and other relevant activities related to exhibitions or other public contexts.

Form of teaching

Master's degree course I consists of three sub-courses where the learning activities mainly consist of group seminars, individual tutorials, lectures and workshops.

Language of instruction: English and Swedish

Assessment

Photographic Work III, is examined orally and/or in writing at the course's final seminar, based on the photographic work the student has developed and presented during the course.

Writing on Photography II, is examined in writing via the finished text and orally by responding to their own text and opposing on another student's text.

Professional development I, is examined orally in a final review and/or via written assignments.

If a student, who has failed the same examined component twice, wishes to change examiner before the next examination, a written application shall be sent to the department responsible for the course and shall be granted unless there are special reasons to the contrary (Chapter 6, Section 22 of Higher Education Ordinance).

In cases where a course has been discontinued or has undergone major changes, the student shall normally be guaranteed at least three examination occasions (including the ordinary examination) during a period of at least one year from the last time the course was given.

Grades

The grading scale comprises: Pass (G) and Fail (U).

Course evaluation

The course will be assessed orally at its conclusion as well as in writing and anonymously after its completion. The results of the evaluation and any changes to the structure of the course will be communicated to both the students who participated in the evaluation and those who are about to begin the course.

Additional information

The student will pay any costs incurred for completing the course's project work.